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PROGRESS REPORT ON THE PREPARATION OF THE PROGRAMME FOR THE UNITED NATIONS SECOND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT DECADE FOR AFRICA

(December 1989 - December 1990)

I. BACKGROUND

1. The bureau of the ninth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry (CAMI) was entrusted with the responsibility of reviewing the follow-up actions to the resolutions adopted in Harare, in particular resolution 2 (IX) and decision 3 (IX) requesting the proclamation of the second Industrial Develop- ment Decade for Africa (IDDA-2), and the Africa Industrialization Day (AID) res- pectively. Specifically, in resolution 2 (IX), the Conference entrusted the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the Economic Commis- sion for Africa (ECA) and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) with the pre- paration, in consultation of a Working Group of 15 governmental experts, of a zero draft of the programme for the second IDDA and present joint reports to the Conference of African Ministers of Industry and their respective legislative bodies. In decision 3 (IX), the Conference also called upon the above three organizations to monitor actions taken at the national, subregional and interna- tional levels towards the commemoration of the AID on 20 November.

2. During the first meeting of the bureau of the ninth meeting of the Con- ference held in Vienna on 19 November 1989, the three secretariats of ECA, OAU and UNIDO provided briefings on the following developments that have taken place since the ninth meeting of the Conference: (a) Industrial Development Board decision IDB.5/Dec.7 of 7 July 1989 on the second IDDA; (b) resolution AHG/Res.180 (XXV) of the twenty-fifth session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU of July 1989 on the proclamation of a second IDDA and on an Africa Industrialization Day; and (c) Economic and Social Council resolu- tion 1989/115 of 28 July 1989 on the proclamation of a second IDDA. While all three resolutions requested the General Assembly to proclaim the period 1991-2000 as the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, ECOSOC resolution 1989/115 also requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations in consulta- tion with the Director-General of UNIDO, to submit to the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly proposals with cost estimates in the preparation of the programme for IDDA-2.

3. The present report is intended to provide detailed information on acti- vities undertaken and progress made in the preparation of the programme for the second IDDA and problems encountered, and to make recommendations for follow-up actions. The report covers the period December 1989 - December 1990.

4. As indicated above, ECA in consultation with UNIDO, has prepared and sub- mitted to the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly the Report of the Secretar-General (A/44/812) providing proposals for the preparation of the programme of IDDA-2. These proposals were based on resolution 2 (IX) of the ninth meeting of Conference of African Ministers of Industry and also contained cost estimates. In addition, ECA and UNIDO were entrusted with the respon- sibility of providing a local and an international expert, respectively, to assist in the preparation of national programmes. ECA was also requested to assist in the preparation of subregional programmes and to organize the two meetings of the Working Group of governmental experts set up by the Conference. To that end, the two secretariats were provided with the necessary resources ($US 461,900 and $US 883,200 respectively). It should be recalled that the General Assembly adopted resolution 44/237 of 22 December 1989 proclaiming the period 1991-2000 as the second IDDA and 20 November as Africa Industrialization Day. The resolution also endorsed the proposals contained in the Secretary-General's report.

II. ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN AND PROGRESS MADE IN THE PREPARATION OF THE PROGRAMME FOR THE SECOND IDDA

A. Preparation of the framework and guidelines for action at the national and subregional levels

5. In resolution 2 (IX) of the ninth meeting of the Conference referred to earlier, as well as UNIDO General Conference resolution GC.3/10 of 23 November 1989 and General Assembly resolution 44/237,

the secretariats of OAU, ECA and UNIDO were requested to prepare, in consultation with the Working Group of governmental experts, a framework to assist member States in the elaboration of their national and subregional programmes for the second IDDA. Accordingly, two draft framework papers were prepared by UNIDO and ECA respectively, after the consultative meeting of the three secretariats held at ECA from 7 to 10 March 1990. The drafts were combined into a final draft during the tenth meeting of the Joint Committee of the OAU, ECA and UNIDO secretariats on IDDA, which was held in Addis Ababa from 22 to 27 March 1990. As the framework had to be elaborated in consultation with the Working Group of governmental experts, it was sent by UNIDO to the 15 members of the Working Group in April 1990 with a view to providing their inputs. To date, only two countries, namely Ethiopia and the Gambia, have sent their comments. Meanwhile the draft framework was forwarded to all African Ministers of Industry, subregional organizations, and local experts, through UNDP offices so that they could start the preparation process of the national and subregional programmes.

B. Working Group of governmental experts

6. In a letter and a reminder sent out in January and February 1990 respec- tively, UNIDO invited three nominations from countries in the five subregions (Central, East, North, Southern and West Africa) including the members of the bureau of the ninth meeting of the Conference, to constitute the Working Group, as decided in resolution 2 (IX). The main responsibility of the Working Group is to review and finalize both the framework for the preparation of national and subregional programmes, and the draft programme of the second IDDA. The constitution of the Working Group was completed in October 1990 and is as follows:

West Africa:	The Gambia, Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal
Central Africa:	Central African Republic, Cameroon and Zaire
North Africa:	Algeria, Tunisia and Egypt
Eastern Africa:	Kenya, Uganda and Ethiopia
Southern Africa:	Zimbabwe, Malawi and Mozambique

C. Preparation by African countries of their national programmes

7. As indicated earlier, in resolutions 2 (IX) of the ninth meeting of the Conference and 44/237 of the United Nations General Assembly, the secretariats of ECA and UNIDO were entrusted with the responsibility of providing, upon request, African countries and intergovernmental organizations with interna- tionally and locally recruited experts to assist them in the preparation of their national programmes. In February 1990, the UNIDO secretariat informed all individual countries and intergovernmental organizations of the possibility for having such assistance.

8. With respect to local experts, ECA has communicated to all African coun- tries, in March 1990, the possibility to be provided with local experts to assist in the preparation of their national programmes and invited them to make pro- posals accordingly. In addition, the terms of reference for local and interna- tional experts for the intergovernmental organizations were prepared by ECA and reviewed by the tenth meeting of the Joint Committee held in Addis Ababa from 22 to 27 March 1990. The terms of reference for local experts together with the draft framework were forwarded to member countries through UNDP offices on 26 April 1990. Subsequently reminders were sent in May, June, July and August 1990.

9. In order to assist member states in accelerating the preparation of their national programmes and due to lack of feedback from many countries, ECA recruited two senior consultants (for English- and

French-speaking countries respectively) to undertake sensitizing missions to about 30 selected countries with a view to providing local authorities with detailed information on the second IDDA, and holding discussions on their respective industrial policies and strategies. The senior consultants were also requested to hold working sessions with local experts on their terms of reference, and the framework in order to ensure consistency among various country programmes and agree on a broad outline of individual national programmes. Where no local expert had not yet been appointed, the two consultants were to contact relevant authorities with a view to accelerating the process. They were also to ensure that a national IDDA working group is established and that a government official is designated as co-ordinator.

10. The situation as of 31 December 1990 was as follows, in the 51 ECA member States:

(a) Recruitment of local experts

(i) 59 local experts from 42 member countries were recruited;

(ii) One country (Morocco) has indicated that no local expert was required although the national programme will be prepared and forwarded to ECA;

(iii) Nomination was expected from one country which indicated that a working group has already started the work (Namibia);

(iv) One country had just nominated its local experts (Côte d'Ivoire);

(v) One country has requested a joint ECA/UNIDO mission in January 1991;

(vi) Five countries (Madagascar, Liberia, Seychelles, Sao Tome and Principe, Mauritius) had not responded despite several reminders.

(b) Status of the preparation of the national programmes

(i) 14 countries had submitted their national programmes which have been compiled to be included in a consolidated regional programme for the second IDDA;

(ii) Several countries have however informed ECA that the reports prepared by local experts have been sent;

(iii) Also, programmes of some countries have been sent directly to UNIDO and will be forwarded to ECA;

(iv) It is, therefore, expected that most of the national programmes would have been received by end of January 1991.

11. With respect to international experts to be provided by UNIDO, the situa- tion as of November 1990 was as follows:

(a) Missions were fielded to 32 countries, to assist local experts and the government in the preparation and finalization of the national programmes;

(b) Three countries are being assisted through UNIDO ongoing projects related to strategic management of industrial development;

(c) One country has indicated that no international expert was required, and its national programme was completed and forwarded to UNIDO;

(d) In two countries, the prevailing situation did not make it possible to field missions;

(e) 13 countries had not yet responded.

D. Preparation of subregional programmes

12. The main responsibility for providing technical assistance, upon request, to subregional organizations in the preparation of their subregional programmes is entrusted to ECA. To this end, ECA has sent a letter in April 1990 to all subregional organizations forwarding the terms of reference for international experts together with the framework and guidelines for action at national and subregional levels.

13. Subsequently, major international organizations were informed that, even if they do not require external expertise to prepare their IDDA projects, they could provide ECA with existing subregional programmes to be updated at a later stage when national programmes would have been received. Since no feedback has been received, and that subregional programmes should take into consideration, to a large extent, the national programmes, ECA intends to field missions by the two senior consultants to the subregions in order to update existing subregional industrial programmes as subregional programmes for the second IDDA.

14. Such an approach is consistent with the decision taken at the second meet- ing of the PTA Ministers of industry to establish a sub-committee composed of the PTA secretariat, four member countries, UNIDO, UNDP, the Commonwealth Secre- tariat and ECA to finalize a document entitled "Integrated industrial development programme for the PTA subregion" taking into account the national programmes.

E Other activities of the secretariats related to the preparations for the second IDDA

1. OAU resolution CM/RES.1283(L II) on industrial development

15. In view of the fundamental role of industrialization in promoting African economic integration and development and in order to focus the attention of all member States and African organizations in the preparation of the programme for the second IDDA, the OAU Council of Ministers adopted, at its fifty-second ordinary session, resolution CM/Res.1283(L II) of 8 July 1990 on industrial development. The resolution "urged all African countries and intergovernmental organizations to formulate their programmes for the second IDDA in accordance with the timetable established for that purpose and requested the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the Executive Secretary of ECA and the Director General of UNIDO, to assist African countries and organizations in the prepara- tion of programmes and activities of the second IDDA".

2. Report to the forty-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly on the preparations for the second IDDA

16. In accordance with paragraph 4 of resolution 44/237, the secretariats of the OAU, ECA and UNIDO prepared, in April 1990, a report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, on preparations for the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa. The report has been submitted to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) at its 1990 second regular session for transmission to the General Assembly for consideration at its forty-fifth session.

3. Ad hoc meeting of the three secretariats of the OAU, ECA and UNIDO

17. Along with the twenty-sixth session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU from 9 to 11 July 1990 in Addis Ababa, the three secre- tariats of the OAU, ECA and UNIDO met on 12 and 13 July 1990 with a view to co-ordinating their activities and follow-up actions required in the preparatory process of the programme of the second IDDA. The meeting also agreed on the draft agenda as well as draft outlines of the documents to be considered by the second meeting of the bureau of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry and suggested a revised timetable for activities to be undertaken before the tenth meeting of Conference which could be held in June 1991, in Dakar, Senegal.

III. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED IN THE PREPARATION OF THE PROGRAMME FOR THE SECOND IDDA

18. The preparation of the programme for the second IDDA experienced some dif- ficulties. The major problems encountered in the process were the following:

A. Delay in the preparation of the framework

19. The framework ought to have been ready during the second half of 1989 fol- lowing the ninth meeting of the Conference. However, activities for the pre- paration, in September 1989, of the report of the Secretary-General to the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly on proposals for the preparation of the IDDA-2 programme, as well as for the third session of the General Conference of UNIDO in November 1989 made it difficult for the three secretariats to meet in late 1989, as had been planned. This meeting was only possible in March 1990.

B. Lack of adequate feedback from governments

20. In spite of repeated reminders, governments have not submitted, on time, their requests for assistance, in terms of local experts and international con- sultants to be financed by ECA and UNIDO respectively. Indeed, many of them have reacted only in the last quarter of 1990. As indicated earlier, this has led the ECA secretariat to concentrate on the countries that needed more assistance, including the recruitment, on request, of more than one local expert in some LDCs and some other countries with relatively complex industrial structures.

C. Delay in constituting the Working Group of governmental experts

21. Similarly, in spite of repeated reminders, late reactions from governments have delayed the constitution of the Working Group. This has adversely affected the finalization of the framework which, as indicated earlier, was sent directly to individual countries without the clearance of the Working Group.

D. Lack of feedback from subregional organizations

22. The lack of feedback from subregional organizations, in addition to the delay in the preparation of national programmes has resulted in little progress with respect to subregional programmes for the IDDA. However, as indicated earlier, the process could be speeded up by updating existing programmes of intergovernmental organizations using information derived from national programmes.

E. Financial constraints

23. The preparation of the programme for the second IDDA has come across some limitations due to financial constraints. As indicated earlier, all countries that have requested assistance have been

provided with local and international experts by ECA and UNIDO respectively. However, no further assistance by ECA is possible given the limitation of available resources. Also, there is no provision for funding the meetings of the bureau of the Conference. The resources made available to ECA by the General Assembly relate only to the organization of two meetings of the Working Group of governmental experts in 1991. Furthermore, no specific resources were earmarked for the translation of the consolidated programme.

IV. ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

24. In spite of the difficulties outlined above, the process of the preparation of the programme for the second IDDA is well under way especially its component on country programmes. A review is to be made by the second meeting of the bureau of the ninth meeting of the Conference, which will agree on the date and venue of the first meeting of the Working Group. Both meetings are scheduled in the first quarter of 1991. Thus a number of issues still need to be addressed in connection with the finalization, adoption and implementation of the programme for the second IDDA as outlined below:

A. Finalization and adoption of the programme for the second IDDA

25. As provided for in both resolutions 2 (IX) of the ninth meeting of the Con- ference and 44/237 of the General Assembly, the draft programme for the second IDDA, prepared by the three secretariats on the basis of country and subregional reports, should be reviewed and finalized by the Working Group before its sub- mission to the Conference of African Ministers of Industry at its tenth meeting. As a subsidiary organ of the Commission, the Conference may be requested in the light of the meetings of its bureau and the first and second meetings of the Working Group to review the implementation of the timetable contained in resolu- tions 2 (IX) and 44/237.

26. Depending on the progress made, the Conference would, at its tenth meeting on 10 and 11 June 1991 in Dakar, Senegal, adopt the programme for the second IDDA, on behalf of the ECA Conference of Ministers, for transmission to the 1991 second regular session of the Economic and Social Council and subsequently to the forty-sixth session of the United Nations General Assembly. The Conference of African Ministers of Industry may also consider revising the timetable to take into account the delays that have occurred in the course of the preparation of the programme for the second IDDA.

B. Implementation of the programme for the second IDDA

27. Once the programme for the second IDDA is adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, its implementation will depend, first and foremost, on African countries themselves and African intergovernmental organizations. However, the support of the international community, particularly bilateral donors and multi- lateral financial institutions as well as private investors is of crucial importance. To mobilize such support, it is essential for the Economic Commission for Africa, in co-operation with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Organization of African Unity to assist the African Governments and intergovernmental organizations in the promotion of their respective programmes for the second IDDA. To that end, the ECA secretariat should be provided with adequate regular budget resources as from the biennium 1992-1993.